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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/838,807	04/20/2001	Michael T. Brown	10011540-1	3525

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HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY  
Intellectual Property Administration  
P.O. Box 272400  
Fort Collins, CO 80527-2400

EXAMINER

KLIMACH, PAULA W

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2135

DATE MAILED: 11/03/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/838,807

Applicant(s)

BROWN, MICHAEL T.

Examiner

Paula W Klimach

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 July 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>5</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Rowland et al. (EP 0 844 767 A1).

*In reference to claims 1 and 16*, Rowland discloses a method for sharing user information, comprising (abstract): receiving a request from a web site host for information concerning a user that has visited a web site maintained by the web site host (column 6 lines 12-15); verifying a authorization of the web site host to receive the information (Fig. 7 part 707 in combination with column 6 lines 18-23) the system verifies that the website is allowed access by finding the entry for the website in the browserid website database; determining a level of access for which the web site host is authorized (column 6 lines 28-41); and transmitting user information to the web site host such that the web site host can personalize the web site for the user (column 1 lines 29-30).

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

**Claims 2-3, 5, 7 and 17-18** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rowland.

*In reference to claims 2 and 17*, Rowland discloses a system for personalizing a website wherein the user determines the level of access using a code that is designated to the website host from the user and therefore received by the web site host from the user (column 6 lines 28-31).

However Rowland does not disclose the website providing said user code during the step of verifying the authorization.

Since the website host specifies in the request to the client the specific item of information that is required by the website host (column 6 lines 16-17), at the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to transmit the authorization code, that is designated by the client, to the website host that sends said authorization code to the user for the verification step. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because the website host would be responsible for retrieving the authorization code and therefore reduce the calculation time and storage space in the client machine.

*In reference to claim 3*, wherein the user code is associated with a predetermined level of access to user information (column 5 lines 55-58).

*In reference to claims 5 and 18*, wherein the step of determining the level of access comprises comparing the user code provided by the web site host with a user code assigned to the user and relevant to a particular user information set (column 5 lines 55-58).

*In reference to claim 7* wherein the step of transmitting user information comprises transmitting user profile information while withholding personal information about the user (Fig. 6).

**Claim 4** is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rowland as applied to claim 2 above, and further in view of Schneier.

In reference to the user code comprises a transient key. A transient key is a key that expires after a period of time.

Rowland does not expressly disclose the code that was designated by the user comprising a transient key.

Schneier teaches that a key should expire automatically; therefore a system should have a policy that determines the permitted lifetime of a key (pages 183-184).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to use a code that expires after a certain period of time as disclosed in Schneier in the system of Rowland. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because the longer the code is used the greater the chance that the system will be compromised.

**Claim 6** is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rowland as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Henrick et al (6,055,510).

Regarding transmitting user information from a centralized repository which stores user information for a plurality of users.

Rowland does not expressly disclose transmitting the user information from a centralized repository that stores user information from a plurality of users.

Henrick discloses a system and method of storing user information in a centralized repository (column 4 lines 32-37) and transmitting the user information from this centralized repository to a website (particular advertiser; column 4 line 66 to column 5 line 10)

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At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to use a central repository to store the user information and transmit the user information to the host website. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because the ISP can take advantage of the unique customer knowledge with respect to user likes and dislikes, while preserving the privacy of the customer, to attract businesses with interest in customer bases.

**Claims 8-9, 11, 13-15, and 19-21** rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rowland in view of Davis et al (6,367,009 B1)

*In reference to claims 8, 13, and 19*, Rowland discloses a method for acquiring user information that is used to personalize a web site for the user (column 1 lines 1-30 in combination with abstract), comprising receiving a user code from a user, the user code being associated with a particular information set pertinent to the user (Fig. 5 and 6); and the website host receives the information set associated with the user code (column 6 lines 28-41).

Although Rowland discloses the website host requesting user information (column 6 lines 12-15), Rowland does not disclose the user information being stored at centralized repository and providing the user code to the centralized repository.

Davis discloses the ETS that is a relational database manager (centralized repository storing) that stores user information needed by the intermediate MTS (website server; column 9 lines 24-48). The client delegates authentication to the MTS to retrieve the user information. The MTS uses the certificate chain, which includes information from the client certificate that was provided by the client (column 13 lines 1-58), this performs the function of providing

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authentication and code required by the ETS (column 14 lines 14-40) to authenticate the MTS and provide the user information (column 9 lines 25-48 in combination with column 13 lines 53-58). This is the function of the user code sent to the website host.

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to use a central repository to store the user information and transmit the user information to the host website. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because the ISP can take advantage of the unique customer knowledge with respect to user likes and dislikes, while preserving the privacy of the customer, to attract businesses with interest in customer bases.

*In reference to claims 9, 14, 20*, wherein the step of receiving a user code comprises automatically receiving a user code when the user visits the web site (column 6 lines 36-44).

*In reference to claims 11, 15, and 21* wherein the step of receiving a user code comprises receiving a user code that is manually entered by the user at the web site (column 6 lines 45-51).

*In reference to claim 10*, wherein the user code is automatically appended to a uniform resource locator (URL) of the web site.

Rowland and Davis do not expressly disclose the code being appended to the URL of the web site.

However, since Davis discloses sending the certificate as part of a message and Rowland discloses sending the request with the information that the web server requires, at the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to append the code to the URL. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it would conserve bandwidth to send it as one message instead of multiple messages.

**Claim 12** is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rowland and Davis as applied to claim 8 above, and further in view of Schneier.

In reference to the user code comprises a transient key. A transient key is a key that expires after a period of time.

Rowland does not expressly disclose the code that was designated by the user comprising a transient key.

Schneier teaches that a key should expire automatically; therefore a system should have a policy that determines the permitted lifetime of a key (pages 183-184).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to use a code that expires after a certain period of time as disclosed in Schneier in the system of Rowland. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because the longer the code is used the greater the chance that the system will be compromised.

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Paula W Klimach whose telephone number is (571) 272-3854. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon to Thr 9:30 a.m to 5:30 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Vu can be reached on (571) 272-3859. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.




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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

PWK

Friday, October 29, 2004

  
KIM VU  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2135